

For immediate release
February 18, 2004

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**MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL BRING TOGETHER COLUMBUS
LEADERS TO SET COURSE FOR FUTURE GROWTH**
Balancing Job Creation with Sustainable Neighborhood Development

(Columbus) Assuring job creation, quality neighborhood services, reducing sprawl, cutting traffic congestion, protecting the environment and Columbus' quality of life will all be addressed by a new policy group launched today by Mayor Michael B. Coleman and City Council President Matt Habash, as the City prepares to rewrite policies that guide growth for the next 30 years. The Mayor and Council President were joined by City Councilmember Maryellen O'Shaughnessy and more than 40 local leaders today for the announcement of the 21st Century Responsible Growth Plan's new Policy Team.

"A strong Columbus is a critical ingredient for a strong region, and our future growth, both inward and outward, is essential to our mission of creating jobs, sustaining neighborhoods and improving the quality of life and regional economy," said Mayor Coleman. "This team will help us determine our course for the next 30 years, as Columbus continues to shine as one of the nation's most successful, stable big cities. This strategy will help ensure that the entire community can grow, as well as afford the impact of growth."

The newly appointed Policy Team is charged with researching and debating strategies to ensure that the City can continue to deliver high quality neighborhood services, plan for future growth, facilitate regional cooperation and balance the creation of new neighborhoods with the creation of new jobs.

"I have two specific charges for the group," said Council President Matt Habash. "First, tell the truth. Carefully review what Columbus has done and is doing with growth opportunities. Bust the myths that some have tried to promulgate. The facts will show that Columbus has been successful because we have been smart about growth. But, it's a new day. Thus, your second duty is to help us adapt to a new and changing environment. We must find ways to add population and jobs while continuing to provide high quality services to every neighborhood. That will take new approaches to funding, from developers and others. What worked in 1990 likely won't work in 2004, 2006 or 10. Let's look to the future."

Since 1954, Columbus has prospered and grown from 41 square miles to more than 222 and from 375,000 people to 720,000. According to a recent study by

the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC), an estimated 600,000 people will move to the area by 2030.

"We must assure Columbus citizens that all our city can benefit from responsible, managed growth that continues our high quality level of service delivery," said Councilmember O'Shaughnessy.

The Policy Team's Executive Committee will develop the plan over the coming year, dealing with job creation and providing for a broad range of future infrastructure and facility needs such as school sites, recreation centers, fire station, and major roadways and bridges. The Policy Team will include leaders from a wide variety of backgrounds.

21st Century Growth Team

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NAME	ORGANIZATION
Kate Anderson	Stonewall Columbus
Ron Barnes	Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA)
Virginia Barney	Upper Arlington City Manager
Jonathan Beard	Columbus Compact
Douglas Borrer/Rob Meyer	Dominion Homes
Andy Bukovinsky	Northland Neighborhood Leader
David Caldwell	Central Ohio AFL-CIO
Phil Cass	Columbus Medical Association
Walter Cates	Main Street Business Association
Bill Ebbing	The New Albany Co.
John Ensign	Ensign and Associates
Bill Faith	Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio (COHHIO)
Mike Fitzpatrick	Architectural Alliance
Sharon Francis	MiraCit Development Corporation
Franz Geiger	NP Limited
Mark Gibson	Franklin County Administrator
Steve Gladman	Columbus Apartment Association
Pasquale Grado	University Community Business Assoc.
Sam Gresham	Columbus Urban League
John Grossman	Columbus Education Association
Bill Habig	MORPC
Darryl Hennessy	Hilltop Area Commission
Jim Hiltz/Malcolm Porter	Building Industry Assoc. of Central Ohio (BIA)
Tom Homan	Delaware City Manager
Rhonda Johnson	Columbus Education Association
James B. Lawrence	Columbus Coatings, LLC
Timothy Lawrence	Ohio NEMO/CampUShed, Ohio State University Extension
Rosemarie Lisko	Northwest Civic Association
Jack Lucks	Continental Communities, Inc.
Ty Marsh	Greater Columbus Chamber of Commerce
Jose Luis Mas	Attorney; Ohio Hispanic Coalition
Mike McKay	Westland Area Commission
Larry Metzger	Columbus Board of Realtors

Val Moeller	Columbus State Community College
Heather Ness	Education Council
John O'Meara	Franklin Co. Metro Parks District Office
Barry Pickett	Sheet Metal Workers Local #24
Carl Powell	Columbus Council of PTAs
Sherry Pymmer	Pymmer Plastering, Inc.; Holtzman-Main Business Association
Jim Rarey	Columbus/Central Ohio Building & Construction Trades Council
Dean Ringle	Franklin County Engineer
Elaine Roberts	Columbus Regional Airport Authority
Tim Rollins	Metropolitan Partners
Robert Schottenstein/Tom Mason	MI Homes, Inc.
Mary Sunami	Southside Settlement House
John Tetzloff	Darby Creek Association
Susan Weaver	Community Housing Network
Bill Westbrook	Whittington, Inc.
The Ohio State University	
Columbus City Council Staff (Lelia Cady & Todd Dieffenderfer)	
Columbus City Administration (Cabinet Directors and Mayor's Office Staff)	